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8/18/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Dale Malik

Serial No.: 09/287,023

Art Unit: 2743

Filed: April 6, 1999

Examiner: D. Nguyen

For: **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR USING THE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK TO CONDUCT A TRANSACTION BETWEEN CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS**

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Assistant Director for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 10, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

(AMENDED)
1. In a telecommunications system functionally interconnecting a service switching point, a service control point, and an intelligent network element, and the telecommunications system including a billing system functionally connected at least to the service control point for retrieval of billing messages, the billing system including telecommunications accounts for charging fees to subscribers with respect to telecommunications services provided to the subscribers, a method for using a

08/20/2001 YVINES 00000002 110855 09287023

01 FC:102 160.00 CH
02 FC:103 54.00 CR

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number 09/287,023

Filing Date April 6, 1999

First Named Inventor Malik

Group Art Unit 2743

Examiner Name D. Nguyen

Attorney Docket Number 36968/176677

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

33

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

☒ Fee Transmittal Form☒ Fee Attached☒ Amendment / Response☐ After Final☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)☐ Extension of Time Request☐ Express Abandonment Request☐ Information Disclosure Statement☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐ Assignment Papers (for an Application)☐ Drawing(s)☐ Licensing-related Papers☐ Petition☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address☐ Terminal Disclaimer☐ Request for Refund☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____☐ After Allowance Communication to Group☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐ Proprietary Information☐ Status Letter☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):**Request for Continued Examination**

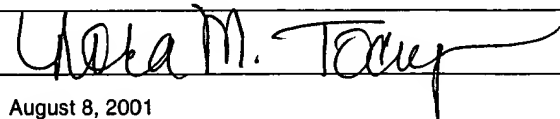
Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name

Nora M. Tocups, Kilpatrick Stockton LLP

Signature



Date

August 8, 2001

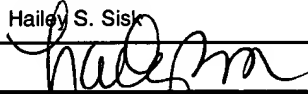
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Date

August 8, 2001

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